

DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT SAN JOAQUIN, CALIFORNIA

CHANGE OF COMMAND

By: Doug Imberi, DDJC Public Affairs

Colonel Edward Visker, United States Army (USA), assumed command of Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, California (DDJC) in a June 8 ceremony held at the Tracy site of DDJC. Visker succeeds COL John Marx, USA. BG James Pillsbury, Commander, Defense Distribution Center (DDC) officiated.

During the ceremony Pillsbury presented Marx with the Defense Superior Service Medal, citing his accomplishments during his tenure as commander of DDJC starting in 1998. Among the many achievements was Distribution Center 2000 which established a single distribution center at Tracy where up to 95 percent of the workload is processed; expansion of the dedicated truck program; empowering the workforce; initiating leadership programs; and providing rapid responses to employee concerns.

COL Marx's next assignment is as Commander of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service on May 31 in Battle Creek, MI. DRMS has nearly 2,000 employees in 98 locations around the world providing reuse, recycling and disposal solutions for Department of Defense activities' excess property.

Colonel Visker, a native of Albany, NY, was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Quartermaster Corps upon gradua-

tion from Sienna College, where he was a distinguished military graduate in 1979. At the same time he was awarded a bachelors degree in Banking and Finance. He also holds a Masters degree in Logistics Systems Management from the University of Southern California.

Prior to his arrival at the San Joaquin Depot, Colonel Visker commanded the 55th Material Management Center at Camp Henry, Taegu, South Korea. In other previous assignments he commanded Defense Distribution Depot Anniston, Alabama.

His awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal; the Joint Service Commendation Medal; the Army Commendation Medal; the Joint Service Achievement Medal; the Army Achievement Medal; and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

The ceremony included contributions from several employees. Maria Johnston, a computer specialist, sang the National Anthem. Jose Rodriguez, a wood worker in the box shop, delivered the invocation. Tommie Jones, the safety team leader, delivered the benediction. The color guard was led by transportation assistant Nathan Womack. Also in the color guard were Kenneth Edwards and James Blea, material handlers from the bulk division.



⇨ *Commander, Defense Distribution Center, Brigadier General James Pillsbury, left, hands San Joaquin Depot Commander, Colonel Edward Visker, the DDC flag, symbolizing the transfer of command from Colonel John Marx during the June 8 Change of Command Ceremony.*



⇨ *The Official Party—Brigadier General James Pillsbury, DDC Commander, left, Colonel Edward Visker, incoming commander, center, Colonel John Marx, outgoing commander, right.*



⇧ *Brig. Gen. Pillsbury, left, and Col. Visker cut the ceremonial cake.*